

# PROCLAMATION

establishing the  
JOINT OVERSIGHT COMMITTEE ON HIGHER EDUCATION GOVERNANCE,  
EXCELLENCE, AND TRANSPARENCY

I, Joe Straus, Speaker of the House of Representatives, and I, David Dewhurst, Lieutenant Governor and President of the Senate, jointly create the Joint Oversight Committee on Higher Education Governance, Excellence, and Transparency, to be governed by the following provisions:

SECTION 1. MEMBERSHIP. The committee consists of the following 12 members:

The Honorable Dan Branch, chair of the House Committee on Higher Education

The Honorable Judith Zaffirini, chair of the Senate Committee on Higher Education

The following members of the House of Representatives:

The Honorable Dennis Bonnen

The Honorable Joaquin Castro

The Honorable Eric Johnson

The Honorable Lois Kolkhorst

The Honorable Jim Pitts

The following members of the Senate:

The Honorable John Carona

The Honorable Robert Duncan

The Honorable Rodney Ellis

The Honorable Kel Seliger

The Honorable Kirk Watson

SECTION 2. CO-CHAIRS; PROCEDURES AND OPERATIONS. (a) The chairs of the House and Senate Committees on Higher Education serve as joint chairs of the committee.

(b) The committee shall meet at the call of the joint chairs.

(c) To the extent not inconsistent with this proclamation, any joint rules adopted by the legislature for the administration of joint interim legislative study committees apply to the committee.

(d) The committee may request reports and other information from public institutions of higher education and the Texas Higher Education Coordinating Board as necessary to carry out the duties of the committee.

SECTION 3. DUTIES AND JURISDICTION. The committee shall examine the following matters:

(1) the governing structure and organization of the state's universities, health-related institutions of higher education, and university systems;

(2) the manner in which the governing boards and administrators of those institutions develop and implement major policy decisions, including the impartiality and adequacy of their processes;

(3) measures to identify and encourage those governing boards and administrators to follow best practices in policy development and implementation; and

(4) any other matter relating to excellence, transparency, accountability, or efficiency in the governance or administration of the state's universities, health-related institutions of higher education, and university systems.

SECTION 4. RECOMMENDATIONS AND REPORTS. The Joint Oversight Committee on Higher Education Governance, Excellence, and Transparency shall make

recommendations, including recommendations for legislative or administrative action, at the times the committee considers appropriate, and shall make a biennial report of its findings and recommendations to the speaker and lieutenant governor in advance of each regular session of the legislature. The committee shall make its initial report not later than January 7, 2013.

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**Joe Straus**  
**Speaker of the House**  
**of Representatives**

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**David Dewhurst**  
**Lieutenant Governor**